

Books: Authors: Publishers—News: Reviews: Comment

Personalities and Places— International Interests

By Willis Fletcher Johnson

A Splendid Failure

Lamartine as Man of Letters and as Statesman

THE LIFE OF LAMARTINE. By H. Remon.
Whitehouse. Illustrated. Two volumes. Royal
8vo. pp. 1,200. \$12.50. The Houghton Mifflin
Company.

We have often felt like adapting to
Lamartine the famous epigram of Samuel
Johnson upon Charles XII:
He left a name at which the world grew pale
To point a moral or adorn a tale.

Putnam's Jan. 17
Publications 1919

The Chaos in Europe

Frederick Moore

Author of "The Balkan Trail,"
"The Passing of Morocco," etc.
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Theodore Roosevelt wrote:
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of an allegiance to mankind. Of the
league of nations project he is, we need
not remind our readers, an earnest and
confident advocate.

The President on the State

THE STATE ELEMENTS OF HISTORICAL AND
PRACTICAL POLITICS. By Woodrow Wilson.
12mo. pp. 254. D. C. Heath & Co.

This familiar work of Mr. Wilson's,
which made its first appearance a score
of years ago, has been revised and
brought down to date by Professor Ed-
ward Elliott, of the University of Cal-
ifornia, with the addition of new chap-
ters on the governmental system of
various nations involved in the great
war. Arranged in textbook form and
designed for such use, it is a work of
immense interest and utility to the man
of affairs and to every one concerned
in public affairs at this transcendent
crisis in the political history of human-
ity. There are copious bibliographies
of authorities consulted, but there is no
index, a lack which impairs the con-
venience of the volume as a work for re-
ference.

Lithuania

THE HISTORY OF THE LITHUANIAN NATION
AND ITS PRESENT NATIONAL ASPIRA-
TIONS. By Kintkas Antanas Juozas. Trans-
lated from Lithuanian into English by
The Lithuanian Catholic Truth Society.

Lithuania has been to the average
reader little more than a name and an
area on the map of Russia. Now it
forgets to the front as a matter of con-
tention among nations and as a poten-
tial new force in the world. Its story,
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just understanding of the complex
problems of national determination in
Central Europe.

The Souls of Cities

CITIES AND SEASOONS. LITERATURE AND
ART. By Arthur Symonds. 12mo. pp. 252. Bren-
tano's.

In these sketches, essays, or what-
ever you may call them, written at in-
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The League of Nations

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88. \$1. The Macmillan Company.

Dr. Kalien takes for his text the
President's fourteen terms of peace,
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favor of a league of nations "built by
the community of economic interest
and action between self-governing peo-
ples." The subject is unquestionably
one of the most important and inter-
esting before the world to-day. It is
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swering the strange summons to a stranger
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Some Noteworthy Novels— Book News and Miscellany

Possibilities

A Story of the Regeneration of a Man's Soul

THE MAN WHO KNEW. By Holworthy Hall.
Illustrated. 12mo. pp. 312. Dodd, Mead & Co.

The theme which the author has em-
ployed in this noteworthy novel, with
certain superb audacity, should prove
of vital interest to innumerable people,
especially in this momentous period of
reconstruction. For this is a period
of reconstruction not only of nations,
at Paris or Versailles at the hands of
diplomats, but also of countless in-
dividuals, at the great hospital at
Neully and elsewhere, at the hands of
surgeons, and who shall say that there
is not at the same time, as Mr. Hall
daringly suggests, a reconstruction of
souls? This, then, is the tale of the
reconstruction or remodeling of a
soldier's physical features, which had
been destroyed by shrapnel, and con-
currently with it, and indeed because of
it, the no less complete and successful
recreating of his mental and spiritual
nature. It is a book of exceptional
power, both because of the unusual
ability displayed by Mr. Hall in han-
dling powerful dramatic situations,
and developing the unique realistic
possibilities of the plot, and because of



Lamartine in 1848
"The Life of Lamartine," H. Remon Whitehouse.

its convincing study, sociological and
psychological, of some of the strongest
impulses and most profound emotions
of the human heart and soul.

As a man about town, pretty much
everything that a man could do to merit
moral and social ostracism, and at last
succeeded in accomplishing the job, the
first big blunder he made by the woman
whom he loved and by her father.
Piqued, resentful, he takes passage on a
tramp steamer for France, and there,
at the beginning of the war, seeks
that resort of many unhappy souls, the
purgatory of exile or outlaw, the Foreign
Legion, thus seeking to obliterate all
the old associations in his face. Soon he
is badly wounded, his face being totally
destroyed by shrapnel. He had rid him-
self of all marks of possible identifica-
tion, and when a picture is desired so
as to remodel his features upon the old
lines he offers the following as a model.
The effect is electrifying, as it happens
to be a picture of the Christ. In ex-
plaining the circumstances to an ac-
quaintance Morgan said:

"They made a man over from his
own photograph. In my own case I
preferred it differently. So when they
asked me for something to use
as a pattern in remodeling, I gave them
this." He tossed me out a picture
postcard, soiled and faded. "Well,
that's where the trouble began. They
curled me up and down for a while,
that part of it won't interest you.
Naturally, I hadn't meant it as a
damned literal as that . . . but they
had me under other before I
could help myself. And they
went through with it and
curled me some more afterward.
They couldn't copy it exactly,
of course, but they got the best they
could. . . . Gloried over the
infinite pains to make it perfect
didn't! Sheer . . . and laughed.
He returns home, where nobody
knows him, announcing that Dick Mor-
gan had died heroically in France. In
a spirit of retaliation he attempts to
make good for the many failures that
the men he had been had made, and
succeeds to a greater extent as "Bill-
lard" than Morgan could ever have
done.

The book is brilliantly written, the
dialogues being handled in a most real-

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Prometheus

The Romance of Life's Unend- ing Quest

THE GREAT HUNGER. By John Beyer. Trans-
lated from the Norwegian by W. J. Alexander.
Warner and Co. New York. 12mo. pp. 277. Mifflin,
Yard & Co.

There were three passionate cravings
in his heart, all elemental, worthy and
ennobling. All three were in suc-
cession gratified in greater measure than
is granted to most sons of men, and
all three failed to appease the ultimate
hunger of the soul. Then like the
"still, small voice" there came a
fourth; it too was strangely filled; and
he was satisfied. Such is the legend
of our book, elaborated into a romance
of singularly effective power and
charm.

First, the nameless lad, after only a
fleeing glimpse of his wretched mother
and no less wretched father, in poverty
and toil grinds his hunger for work, and
with a beautiful devotion to
his sister, until he loses her through
death—happy lest she might have
followed the wayward footsteps of
their mother. Next comes the hunger
for power and great achievement and
wealth, which likewise is gratified;
though in heart loneliness. At last
comes the greatest passion of all, for



Harry Hansen
"A Peace Congress of Intrigue," The Century Co.

love of woman, and it too is satisfied
most purely and most beautifully. But
there was still a hunger. These were
the three after all, gratification of the
material nature. The hunger of the
soul was not yet appeased. So there
had to be loss, bereavement, sorrow
and pain, and then in sacrifice
and service the supreme meaning
of life was found.

We know not which to admire the
most, the portrayal of the struggling
boy, the impassioned lover, or the stricken
wreck, rising from ruin into
triumph. All phases are drawn with
a skill that is rare in even our best
fiction. Those who dwell in lands of
primitive nature seem best of all to
enter into the primitive heart of man
and to discern and to estimate its
elemental passions; and that is what
this Norse romance has done in a
manner which we shall not easily find
surpassed in all our range of letters.
There are in it the depths of the
fathomless fords, the heights of the
snow-capped mountains, the pines of the
pine forests, and all the beauty
and the glory of the natural human
heart; making us wonder how we ever
were pleased with the painted scenes
and tawdry trappings of that sophis-
ticated stage which vainly call the
world. A book worthy of its theme in
matter and in manner—nothing more
could be said of it when we remember
that the theme is one of the very
greatest in all human life.

American Charities

AMERICAN CHARITIES. By Anna G. Warner.
Large. 12mo. pp. 241. The Thomas Y.
Crowell Company.

All persons interested in sociological
problems will welcome this appearance
of a third edition of this standard
work, revised since Dr. Warner's death
by Dr. Mary Roberts Coolidge, and with
a biographical preface by Dr. George
Elliot Howard. Under its first issue,
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of self sacrifice
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thoughtful, comprehensive and helpful
of discussions of its subject, and time
and use have confirmed it in that
status. It is provided with a copious
bibliography and analytical index.

Sound Criticism

An Eminent Author's Studies in Authorship

STUDIES IN LITERATURE. By Sir Arthur Qu-
iller-Jones. Royal 8vo. pp. 224. G. P. Put-
nam's Sons.

The letter of literary criticism
killeth, but the spirit maketh alive.
Unfortunately, criticism, when it fills
a volume, is generally literal rather
than spiritual, and as a consequence
almost the only man who will thank
you for recommending or giving
to him such a work is he who is trou-
bled with insomnia. Now and then,
however, there comes a book, a vol-
ume of criticism which is vividly and
vitaly spiritual, and when it reaches us
we thank God and take courage.

Sir Arthur Quiller-Jones has written
enough books of his own prose and
verse, and therefore has been himself
subjected to enough criticism to war-
rant him now in seeking to be an critic
of others. He has, because of his de-
serts, been generally so well spoken
of by critics that it is natural that he
should himself be known inclined to
laudatory rather than to denunciatory criticism.
And ever since the days of "The Splen-
did Spur" he has been writing books
entraining in their interest that it
was quite certain that his criticism
would be as readable as the books
which they discussed.

So they are. The contents of this
volume are miscellaneous addresses
and articles in periodicals. They are,
therefore, a little less formal in tone
than they might have been if prepared
expressly for a book. Indeed, they are
indeed, they are written in the inter-
esting style of his best romances;
about his fidelity to fact and a de-
liberation and sobriety of judgment
not surpassed by the most dry-as-dust
of all the unread scrolls. Above all,
they are sane, they are sound. They
are practical. They exhort and abhor-
minate all the weird "canons" which
have made some schools of criticism so un-
mitigably boring. Thus, he is discuss-
ing "classical" and "romantic" litera-
ture:

These epithets—"romantic" and
"classical"—are still epithets, ad-
jectives by which we qualify real
things. . . . When we convert
our epithets into abstract nouns—
"classicism," "romanticism"—I would
point out to you with all the solemn-
ity at my command that we are at
once hopelessly lost. . . . lost because
we have advanced a vague concept to
the pretence of being a thing; hope-
lessly lost, because we have removed
our concept out of the range of the
thing; which is not only what mat-
ters, but the one and single test of
our secondary notions. "The play of
the thing," "the play of the thing,"
"The Cenci" is the thing. . . . Shakespeare,
Milton, Shelley did not write
"classicism" or "romanticism." They
wrote "Hamlet," "Lycidas," or
"The Cenci." Gentlemen, I would I could
persuade you to remember that you
are English, and to go always for
the thing, casting out of your vocab-
ulary all such words as "classicism,"
"romanticism," "influences," "revivals," "revolts."
"Tendencies" did not write "The Can-
terbury Tales," Geoffrey Chaucer
wrote them. "Influences" did not
make "The Faerie Queene," Ed-
mund Spenser made it, as a man
called Ben Jonson wrote "The Al-
chemist," a man called Sheridan
wrote "The School for Scandal," a
man called Meredith wrote "The Egoist."
All things considered, I advise that
it may help our minds to earn an
honest living, we begin, the terms
"classical" and "romantic" out
of our vocabulary for a while.

Yes, we thank God and take courage,
and we wish that there were a Sir Ar-
thur Quiller-Jones to be a lecturer on
English literature to every American
college and university.

With Pen and Press Current Activities of Authors and Publishers

The Marshall Jones Company an-
nounces as forthcoming "Letters from
a Prairie Garden," "The Construction of
Our Churches in the War Zone," by
Professor Goodyear, of the Brooklyn
Institute, "Kirk's Cartoons," and "The
Seven Who Sailed," by A. Kingsley
Porter.

Mabel Potter Daggett's "Women
Wanted," published by the George H.
Doran Company, has been listed in the
bibliography of the women's committee
of the Council of National Defense.

Theodore Roosevelt wrote for Mrs.
Street in a copy of Julian Street's "The
Most Interesting American," published
by the Century Company. "This little
book puts me in the light, in which I
wish my children to see me, and, and
very glad it should be written by the
very man who has written it."

Henry Holt & Co. have arranged
with Allen & Unwin, of London, for
English editions of the "Letters of C. L. R."
translation of three of Romain Roll-
and's works.

Arthur Pollen's "The British Navy
in Battle" will be published by Double-
day, Page & Co. at the end of this
month.

Ellis Wheeler Wilcox, whose auto-
biography is about to be published by
the George H. Doran Company, has
been in France for nearly a year, work-
ing among the soldiers.

Frederick Moore, whose cable dis-
patches from the other side are fa-
miliar to readers of The Tribune, has
written "Chaos in Europe," to be pub-
lished at once by G. P. Putnam's Sons
—a consideration of the state of af-
fairs in Russia and elsewhere and of
the international policies of America.

Charles Scribner's Sons will publish
next week "Another Sheaf," by John
Galsworthy; "Hospital Heroes," by
Elizabeth Black; "The Only Possible
Peace," by Frederic C. Howe, and "Deer
Godchild," by Edith Serrell and Mar-
guerite Bernard.

Henry Holt & Co. have had to print

A REPUBLIC OF NATIONS

A Study of the Organization of a Federal League of Nations by RALEIGH
C. MINOR, Professor of Constitutional and International Law at the
University of Virginia. 349 pages. (Postage extra, weight 2 lbs.)
Net \$2.50.

Deals with the formation of a permanent league for alliance
which, while guaranteeing to each its right and proper independence
in the control of its internal affairs, will also adequately guarantee
each against oppressive and unjust violations of that independence
by neighbors stronger or better prepared to utilize their strength.

The appendix contains the Constitution of the United States and
a tentative constitution of the United Nations in parallel columns.

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ment."—N. Y. Sun.

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man whose influence and whose methods may soon be seen at work again
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scale by one of the world's leading novelists, one critic says, "If you could
create the traditional visitor from Mars to whom you wanted to give in one
book an epitome of what had been written and felt of the war you could hand
him 'The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse.'" The reviewer goes on to
enumerate what has been given to the world in many reports, stories of trench
life, glimpses of devastation, diplomatic experiences, splendid tributes to
Allied courage and endurance, and adds, "All of these are implied and sur-
passed in the book of the Spanish novelists." They are in true proportion
and given the vividness of young cosmopolitan life in Paris in this thoroughly
enjoyable novel.

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